

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

() Release (X) Excise () Deny

Exemption(s): B6

Declassify: () In Part () In Full

() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to

Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

P760159-1158

10/6/76
V851

October 1, 1976

Dear Mr. Fisher:

The Secretary has asked me to reply to your letter of September 28, requesting on behalf of [] information regarding the alleged disappearance of Ricardo Zeff and three of his friends in Buenos Aires on July 23.

We have no information about the disappearance of Mr. Zeff or his friends, and since neither he nor they are U.S. citizens, we cannot intervene formally on their behalf. You may wish to advise [] to try to obtain information from the Argentine Embassy, 1600 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009.

The Department and our Embassy in Buenos Aires have discussed human rights problems repeatedly with Argentine officials. The Argentine government is aware of the nature and level of concern which is being expressed in the United States Congress and by private citizens. We will send a copy of this correspondence to our Embassy in Buenos Aires in order to inform it of your interest in this case.

I regret that we cannot provide more information on this case.

Sincerely yours,

Kempton B. Jenkins
Acting Assistant Secretary
for Congressional Relations

Enclosure:

Correspondence Returned.

The Honorable

Joseph L. Fisher,

House of Representatives.

Drafted: ARA/ECA:CJHarris:jc *AK*
10/6/76:x25221:#149-2389

Clearances: ARA/ECA:RWZimmermann *W*
ARA/ECA:FERondon (draft) *FR*
ARA:GLister *CS*
ARA:CBray *CS*
H:EBlack *FR/SW*